

IAP15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 APR 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Akinori MASAMURA et al.

Application No.: New U.S. National Stage of  
PCT/JP2004/016246

Filed: April 18, 2006

Docket No.: 127740

For: DIAPHRAGM VALVE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTCommissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of one or more non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification. See Reference 4.
- ☒ 3. One or more reference cited herein was cited in the International Search Report. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 2-5.
- ☒ 4. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- ☒ 5. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached hereto. See References 2-5.
- ☒ 6. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([http://www.jpo.go.jp]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 2-5.

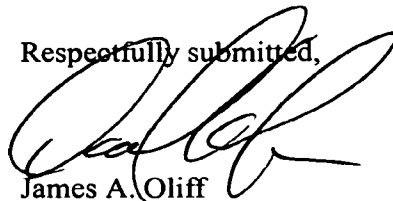
ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /M.T./

Application No. New U.S. Patent Application

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- ☒ 7. Please note that Reference 1 corresponds to Reference 2.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:DAT/jrb

Date: April 18, 2006

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| Form PTO-1449<br>(REV. 1/06)  |             | US Dept. of Commerce<br>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE      |            | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>127740             |                             | APPLICATION NO.<br>New U.S. National<br>Stage of<br>PCT/JP2004/016246 |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary)   |             |  |            | APPLICANTS<br>Akinori MASAMURA et al. |                             |   |  |
|   |             |  |            | FILING DATE<br>April 18, 2006         |                             |   |  |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS   |             |  |            |                                       |                             |   |  |
| Examiner<br>Initials  | Cite<br>No. | Document Number  | Date       | Name                                  |                             |   |  |
|   | 1           | 6,394,417 B1   | 05/28/2002 | Browne et al.                         |                             |   |  |
|   |             |  |            |                                       |                             |   |  |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS  |             |  |            |                                       |                             |   |  |
| Examiner<br>Initials  | Cite<br>No. | Document Number  | Date       | Country                               | With<br>English<br>Abstract | With<br>English<br>Translation  |  |
|   | 2           | JP A 2003-529031                                       | 09/30/2003 | Japan                                 | X                           | X   |  |
|   | 3           | JP A 09-217845   | 08/19/1997 | Japan                                 | X                           | X   |  |
|   | 4           | JP A 2003-247650                                       | 09/05/2003 | Japan                                 | X                           | X   |  |
|   | 5           | JPA 11-037329  | 02/12/1999 | Japan                                 | X                           | X   |  |
|   |             |  |            |                                       |                             |   |  |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS   |             |  |            |                                       |                             |   |  |
| Examiner<br>Initials  | Cite<br>No. | (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |            |                                       |                             |   |  |
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| EXAMINER  |             |  |            | DATE CONSIDERED                       |                             |   |  |
| /Marina Tietjen/ (06/17/2008)   |             |  |            | 06/17/2008                            |                             |   |  |
| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |             |  |            |                                       |                             |   |  |

Date: April 18, 2006

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